

REMARKS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

An IDS is being filed herewith to ensure full consideration and listing of all prior art cited in the International Search Report, and in a UK Search Report in the British priority application.

THE CLAIMS: AMENDMENTS AND STATUS

Claims 1-10 were examined, and are presented for reconsideration. Claims 1 and 9 are independent.

Referring for illustrative purposes to Figs. 7a and 7b, each of the independent claims has been amended to clarify that the outer yoke (3) is generally cylindrical and completely encloses the radially oriented magnet (46). Support for this added material is found in those two figures; on page 7, line 22 (“annular”); and on page 9, line 15 (“generally cylindrical”).

THE REJECTIONS

Borja (US 6,020,805) is the basic reference applied in the rejections. Claims 1-5 and 8-10 are said to be unpatentable over Borja under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 6 and 7 are said to be unpatentable over Borja in view of Hathaway (US 4,295,011). The rejections are traversed for at least the following reasons.

Borja discloses a multi-part outer yoke assembly made up of individual block-shaped yokes 26. As shown in Borja’s figures, particularly Figs. 5 and 10, there are discrete gaps (“ventilation passages”) 33 between the yokes 26. The ends of magnets 21 are exposed in these gaps, which will allow flux leakage from the system. Thus, in contrast to the claimed invention, the yoke assembly in Borja is not “generally cylindrical,” and does not “completely enclose” the radially oriented magnet.

The use of separate, spaced, block-shaped yokes with gaps 33 therebetween is an essential feature of Borja: to allow efficient ventilation (see col. 2, lines 45 to 53 and col 3, lines 58 to 67). Such gaps would be present even in a contemplated modification (col. 4, lines 24-28), which would use fewer yokes and magnets in the form of “curved plates.”

Accordingly, Borja teaches away from the use of a "completely enclosing" outer yoke as required by the present invention.

Hathaway, which is cited against claims 6 and 7 for a teaching of chamfered yokes, does not overcome the above-noted deficiencies of Borja. Accordingly, the proposed modification of Borja in view of Hathaway would yield a result that still would not meet all the limitations of the claims.

In view of the foregoing, the rejections cannot be maintained, and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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